

developers and researchers to answer key questions in disease diagnostics, prognosis and disease therapy. I applaud the work of founder Dr. Norma Nowak, and all those at Empire Genomics and congratulate them on their Sponsor's Award presented by First Niagara Bank.

Tony Martin Awards, Inc. provides high quality services for all customers throughout Western New York. Tony Martin Awards has been serving the Western New York community for over 50 years with extraordinary contributions to the regional economy and professional expertise. I am pleased to recognize Tony Martin Awards, Inc. as the recipient of the Small Business of the Year Award.

Santora's Pizza Pub and Grill has been a staple in Western New York, since 1927. They have been dedicated members of the community since their inception and it is my honor to commend this year's Family Owned Business Award recipient, Paul Santora of Santora's Pizza Pub & Grill.

This impressive list of Small Businesses being honored at this year's Luncheon and Showcase deserve the extra recognition and I thank the Amherst Chamber of Commerce for bringing these distinguished business leaders together. I ask my colleagues to join me and wish the award recipients continued success in the years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. OMICRON CHI OMEGA CHAPTER

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 30th anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Chi Omega Chapter.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was founded on the campus of Howard University January 15, 1908, as the first Greek-letter organization established by collegiate black women. Inaugurated with the founding principle, "To be supreme in service to all mankind," Chapters today continue to be conscientious members of their communities, sensitive to the needs and struggles of underserved populations.

Prince William County's Omicron Chi Omega Chapter was founded August 26, 1984, and chartered May 19, 1985, by five exceptional women: Roslyn Dunn, Venus Miller, Jannette Smithson, Alice Taylor and Mary Williams. During its 30-year history, the Chapter has received many local community awards and recognition from the Commonwealth of Virginia and Alpha Kappa Alpha for its involvement in the Back to School/Stay in School Program, its support of SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victim's Advocacy Services), and its contributions to ACTS and the American Heart Association.

The 2014–2018 International Program focuses on five areas of engagement: Educational Enrichment, Health Promotion, Family Strengthening, Environmental Ownership, and Global Impact. Working under the banner of Environmental Ownership, Omicron Chi Omega recently restored the Dumfries Elementary School playground. In addition to the

global program, Omicron Chi Omega provides \$10,000 annually in scholastic scholarships to graduating high school seniors, sponsors food drives for the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center and SERVE Family Shelter, provides school supplies and coats to Prince William County Public Schools students, sponsors programs on physical and mental awareness for senior citizens and their caregivers, and established a drive to deliver black dolls to the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., to reflect the diverse cultures of children in need. In 2014, I had the honor of participating in the Chapter's Restoration of Voting Rights forum.

One of the Chapter's longest standing initiatives, the Little Miss AKA Scholarship Pageant, is now in its sixteenth year. The pageant highlights the Chapter's dedication to the young women of our community. The six-month long program allows for young girls between the ages of five and seventeen to enhance their personal development, build self-esteem, increase social skills, and meet women of diverse professions and positive role models.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Chi Omega Chapter. The Chapter continues the legacy of Alpha Kappa Alpha's founders and continues to be an invaluable force for good in our community.

#### DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNER ANNE CHRISTIONO

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anne Christiono of Sugar Land's Cornerstone Elementary for being one of only thirteen winning students of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

Anne, who is currently in the third grade, is one of the thirteen winners selected from the 8,228 elementary school students from across Texas who entered the contest. Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation selected the contest winners who displayed tremendous artistic talent, dedication, and creativity. Anne's submission will appear in the 2016 Don't Mess with Texas Calendar and will be displayed on the Keep Texas Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas websites. Her work will even be showcased at the Keep Texas Beautiful's 2015 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Anne for being selected as one of the winners of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, every October Breast Cancer Awareness Month is recognized—acknowledging the toll the disease takes on individuals and families, and the importance of continued research and awareness efforts. Since 1989, thanks to earlier detection, increased understanding, and improved treatment, the death rates for breast cancer have continued to decrease. Yet breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death in women, with one in 36 women dying from the disease. Just this year, it is estimated that 231,840 women will be diagnosed with and 40,290 women will die of cancer of the breast in the United States. In addition, it is estimated that 2,350 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer and 440 men will die from breast cancer in 2015 in the United States.

We need to do more to combat this disease. In 2014 alone it is estimated that \$17.2 billion will be spent on breast cancer care in the United States. While the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program remain the largest funders of breast cancer research in the United States, the National Cancer Institute funding was reduced by nearly \$66 million from 2011 to 2013. The funding level for the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program has remained consistent since 2012; however this amount represents a 20 percent decrease from 2011 funding levels.

Additional private sector support will help us find cures for breast cancer even faster. That is why my colleague Representative PETE SESSIONS and I are introducing the Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act. Proceeds from the sale of the coins will benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. These two organizations have raised more than \$500 million and \$847 million, respectively, for research funding. By leveraging the proceeds of the coins we will be able to increase the much needed support for breast cancer research and awareness.

Clearly, more needs to be done to find better treatments and cures for breast cancer. Our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, cannot afford to wait. I encourage you to support this bipartisan legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa Water Environment Association (IAWEA) on their 100th year anniversary. This is an important milestone in their history of service to the state of Iowa through their efforts to advance water quality and water pollution control techniques.